



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/049,162 Confirmation No.: 7831
Applicant : HIRASHIMA et al.
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Examiner : Mickey Yu, SPE
Shian Luong

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Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Customer Window, Mail Stop **Amendment**
Alexandria, VA -22314-1450

March 24, 2005

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of September 24, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

- (1) Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

- (2) Remarks/arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.